Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of handling user-defined options during a copy and paste or a cut and paste operation within a multi dimensional spreadsheet (200) comprising a plurality of cells identified by a cell address along each dimension, said method comprising the steps of:

- defining one or a plurality of combinations, each combination comprising one or a plurality of options;
- defining a source cell range and a destination cell range;
- defining an operation to execute, either copy and paste, or cut and paste;

for each defined option combination comprising one or a plurality of options, if at least one cell in the source cell range comprises a reference to said one or plurality of options,

- computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to said one or plurality of options;
- creating a version instance of the destination cell range;
- copying the source range of cells into said version instance.

when the last option combination is copied,
- clearing the source cell range if the operation is cut and paste.

2. The method according to the preceding claim comprising the further steps of:

- assigning a name for each defined combination of options;
- naming the version instance with the defined combination name;

3. The method according to any one of the preceding claims comprising the preliminary steps of:

- defining each option as a boolean variable;
- referencing said one or plurality of boolean variables in one

5   or a plurality of cells.

4. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said step of
computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to one or plurality of options, comprises the further

10 steps of:

- activating the one or plurality of boolean variables corresponding to the current option combination;
- determining the content of each said cell with the source cell range depending on whether said one or plurality of boolean

15   variables are activated or not.

5. The method according to any one of the preceding claims comprising the further step of:

- setting the value of the boolean variable to one when the boolean variable is activated, or

20 - setting the value of the boolean variable to zero when the boolean variable is not activated.

6. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said steps of defining a combination, assigning a name, defining a source cell range and a destination cell range,

25 defining an operation are executed by means of an interactive user interface.

7. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said interactive user interface comprises a dialog box displayed on a screen (106) of a computer system (100).

8. A system (100) comprising means adapted for carrying out the method according to any one of the preceding claims.

9. A computer program comprising computer readable instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to claims 1 to 7.